



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

JAMES S. REINHARD, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

Post Office Box 1797
Richmond, Virginia 23218-1797

Telephone (804) 786-3921
Voice/TDD (804) 371-8977
www.dmhmrzas.state.va.us

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Contact: Martha Mead 804-786-9048
Stacey Atwell 804-786-1332

Lynn C. DeLacy Named Director of Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute in Falls Church

Richmond—James S. Reinhard, M.D., Commissioner, announced today that he has hired Lynn C. DeLacy, as Director of the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute (NVMHI), a 132 bed state psychiatric facility in Falls Church. Ms. DeLacy has been Acting Director of the Institute since November, 2002, and has worked at the Institute for 25 years. In announcing his decision, Dr. Reinhard said, "Lynn DeLacy has directed nursing services at the Institute for 20 years, shouldering full administrative and clinical responsibilities for critical patient care. She is recognized nationally for her leadership in methods to reduce seclusion and restraint. She is respected by the community and by the staff at the facility. Lynn has taken the helm at the facility as Acting Director on more than one occasion. We could not have found anyone with more breadth of experience and leadership for this facility than Ms. DeLacy."

Ms. DeLacy was Director of Nursing at NVMHI from 1983 to November, 2002, when she took over as Acting Facility Director. In addition, she served as Acting Facility Director from November, 1997, until April 1998. She is a doctoral candidate at George Mason University, College of Nursing and Health Science. She received a Master's Degree of Science in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing from MCV/VCU in 1983, and a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Lucy Webb Hayes School of Nursing, American University in 1981. Mrs. DeLacy is Board Certified in Nursing Administration, Advanced, through the American Nurses Credentialing Center. She is a member of several professional societies.

In 2001, Ms. DeLacy was the first recipient of the *Mental Health Consumer Award for Service Provider Excellence from the Fairfax-Falls Church Mental Health Advocacy Community, Northern Virginia Consumers Association*. In 2000, she was presented the American Psychiatric Nurses Association Award for Excellence in Leadership. The Association recognized Mrs. DeLacy's "significant contribution to psychiatric-mental health nursing through her leadership as Chair of the APNA Seclusion and Restraint Task Force. For two years she led the work of a task force to develop two key documents for national dissemination, a *Position Statement on the Use of Seclusion and Restraint*, and the *Seclusion and Restraint Standards of Practice*.

Gerald E. Deans, Assistant Commissioner for Facility Services, said "Lynn DeLacy is an excellent leader and manager. We are fortunate to have her expertise available to assist us on a regional and statewide basis. At the same time, she has shared her knowledge and competence on a national level, providing guidance for psychiatric staff and facility care across the country. I have every confidence that she will serve the Institute and the Commonwealth with distinction and compassion.

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